



NEWS RELEASE

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THE LINCOLN-LANCASTER WOMEN'S COMMISSION

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WHAT IS WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY?

National Day Recognizes Women's Right to Vote

At the request of Representative Bella Abzug (D-NY), the U.S. Congress in 1971 designated August 26 as "Women's Equality Day."

The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts towards full equality. Workplaces, libraries, organizations and public facilities now participate with Women's Equality Day programs, displays, video showings and other activities

The date was selected to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote. This was the culmination of a massive, peaceful civil rights movement by women that had its formal beginnings in 1848 at the world's first Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York. On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote, was certified as part of the U.S. Constitution. Referred to as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, it states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

One of the best ways to celebrate Women's Equality Day is to register to vote and then to vote at every opportunity. For more information call 441-7716 or visit LLWC Web site: www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/women.html.

The Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission was formed in 1976 to "work toward eliminating social, economic and legal barriers that prevent women from choosing their present and future roles in the family, the labor force, education and society in general."